

Amendment and Response

Applicant: Kelli Hodge Kennedy et al.

Serial No.: 09/782,765

Filed: February 13, 2001

Docket No.: 10005680-1

Title: DOCUMENT DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM AND METHOD WITH CONSOLIDATED DOCUMENT SERVICES MANAGEMENT

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REMARKS

The following Remarks are made in response to the Non-Final Office Action mailed April 4, 2006, in which claims 1, 3-7, 9, 10, 12-17, 19, 21, 23-27, 29, and 30 were rejected. With this Amendment, claims 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 9, 10, 12, 13, 14, 15, 17, 19, 21, 26, and 27 have been amended to clarify Applicant's invention. Claims 1, 3-7, 9, 10, 12-17, 19, 21, 23-27, 29, and 30, therefore, remain pending in the application and are presented for reconsideration and allowance.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 1, 9, 10, 19, 26, and 27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement.

With this Amendment, independent claim 1 has been amended to recite that the method includes "presenting the list of distribution options for the document to the user," independent claim 9 has been amended to recite that the method includes "presenting the list of distribution options for the document to the user," and independent claim 10 has been amended to recite that the system includes "a user interface configured to present the list of distribution options for the document to the user." In addition, independent claim 19 has been amended to recite that the method includes "presenting the document distribution services to a user having a document," independent claim 26 has been amended to recite that the method includes "presenting the document distribution services to a user having a document," and independent claim 27 has been amended to recite that "the document distribution system controller is adapted to present the document distribution services to a user having a document."

In view of the above, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of claims 1, 9, 10, 12, 19, 26, and 27 under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, be reconsidered and withdrawn.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1, 3-7, 9, 10, 12-17, 19, 21-27, 29, and 30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Straub et al. US Patent No. 6,216,141.

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With this Amendment, independent claim 1 has been amended to clarify that "the user provides the document to the document distribution system controller," independent claim 9 has been amended to clarify that "the user provides the document for distribution," and independent claim 10 has been amended to clarify that "the user provides the document to the system for distribution." In addition, independent claim 19 has been amended to clarify that "the user provides the document to the document distribution system controller for distribution," independent claim 26 has been amended to clarify that "the user provides the document for distribution," and independent claim 27 has been amended to clarify that "the user provides the document to the system for distribution."

As such, "receiving a distribution request for the document from the user at the document distribution system controller," as recited in claim 1, includes receiving a distribution request for the document from the entity providing the document to the document distribution system controller, and "presenting the list of distribution options for the document to the user," as recited in claim 1, includes presenting the list of distribution options for the document to the entity providing the document to the document distribution system controller.

In addition, "receiving a distribution request for the document from the user," as recited in claim 9, includes receiving a distribution request for the document from the entity providing the document for distribution, and "presenting the list of distribution options for the document to the user," as recited in claim 9, includes presenting the list of distribution options for the document to the entity providing the document for distribution.

In addition, "a user interface configured to present the list of distribution options for the document to the user," as recited in claim 10, includes a user interface configured to present the list of distribution options for the document to the entity providing the document to the system for distribution.

In addition, "presenting the document distribution services to a user having a document," as recited in claim 19, includes presenting the document distribution services to the entity providing the document to the document distribution system controller for distribution, and "receiving a distribution selection for the document from the user at the document distribution system controller," as recited in claim 19, includes receiving a

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distribution selection for the document from the entity providing the document to the document distribution system controller for distribution.

In addition, "presenting the document distribution services to a user having a document," as recited in claim 26, includes presenting the document distribution services to the entity providing the document for distribution, and "receiving a distribution selection for the document from the user," as recited in claim 26, includes receiving a distribution selection for the document from the entity providing the document for distribution.

In addition, "wherein the document distribution system controller is adapted to present the document distribution services to a user having a document," as recited in claim 27, includes the document distribution system controller being adapted to present the document distribution services to the entity providing the document to the system for distribution, and "wherein the document distribution system controller is adapted to receive a distribution selection for the document from the user," as recited in claim 27, includes the document distribution system controller being adapted to receive a distribution selection for the document from the entity providing the document to the system for distribution.

Furthermore, independent claims 1, 9, 10, 19, 26, and 27, each recite that the document distribution services include at least one of print services, electronic mail services, and print publishing services.

With respect to the Straub et al. patent, Applicant submits that this patent does not teach or suggest a method of distributing a document of a user as claimed in independent claim 1, a computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for performing a method of distributing a document of a user as claimed in independent claim 9, a system for distributing a document of a user as claimed in independent claim 10, a method of managing document distribution services of a plurality of document distribution providers as claimed in independent claim 19, a computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for performing a method of managing document distribution services of a plurality of document distribution providers as claimed in independent claim 26, nor a system for managing document distribution services as claimed in independent claim 27.

For example, the Straub et al. patent discloses a system and method for displaying a rich multimedia document in the same window as a desktop window, wherein a client

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computer connects to a computer network and retrieves a channel guide or list of content providers from which a user can select one or more content providers such that the client computer retrieves a document associated with a content provider selected from the channel guide whereby the document is integrated into the desktop window on the client computer (see Abstract). As such, the one or more content providers of the Straub et al. patent is the party providing the document, while the user of the system and method of the Straub et al. patent is the party that merely selects the one or more content providers and the desired document preferences (see, e.g., col. 3, lines 18-35).

The user of the system and method of the Straub et al. patent, however, is not the entity providing the document nor is the one or more content providers of the Straub et al. patent (viz., the party that is providing the document) presented with or select distribution options for the document. As such, the one or more content providers of the Straub et al. patent cannot be considered "a user" as recited in independent claims 1, 9, 10, 19, 26, and 27 because the one or more content providers of the Straub et al. patent are not presented with nor do they make a selection of distribution options for the document. Conversely, the actual user of the system and method of the Straub et al. patent cannot be considered "a user" as recited in independent claims 1, 9, 10, 19, 26, and 27 because the user of the system and method of the Straub et al. patent is not the entity providing the document. Accordingly, neither the user of the system and method of the Straub et al. patent nor the one or more content providers of the Straub et al. patent constitute "a user" as recited in independent claims 1, 9, 10, 19, 26, and 27.

In addition, the Straub et al. patent merely displays the document in the desktop window. The Straub et al. patent, however, does not provide document distribution services including at least one of print services, electronic mail services, and print publishing services for the document as recited in independent claims 1, 9, 10, 19, 26, and 27.

For at least the reasons set forth above, Applicant submits that the Straub et al. patent does not teach or suggest each and every element of independent claims 1, 9, 10, 19, 26, and 27. Accordingly, Applicant submits that independent claims 1, 9, 10, 19, 26, and 27 are each patentably distinct from the Straub et al. patent and, therefore, are each in a condition for allowance. Furthermore, as dependent claims 3-7 further define patentably distinct claim 1,

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SERVICES MANAGEMENT

dependent claims 12-17 further define patentably distinct claim 10, dependent claims 21 and 23-25 further define patentably distinct claim 19, and dependent claims 29 and 30 further define patentably distinct claim 27, Applicant submits that dependent claims 3-7, 12-17, 21, 23-25, 29, and 30 are also in a condition for allowance. Applicant, therefore, respectfully requests that the rejection of claims 1, 3-7, 9, 10, 12-17, 19, 21, 23-27, 29, and 30 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) be reconsidered and withdrawn and that claims 1, 3-7, 9, 10, 12-17, 19, 21, 23-27, 29, and 30 be allowed.

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SERVICES MANAGEMENT**CONCLUSION**

In view of the above, Applicant respectfully submits that pending claims 1, 3-7, 9, 10, 12-17, 19, 21, 23-27, 29, and 30 are all in a condition for allowance and requests reconsideration of the application and allowance of all pending claims.

Any inquiry regarding this Amendment and Response should be directed to either Nathan Rieth at Telephone No. (208) 396-5287, Facsimile No. (208) 396- 3958 or Scott A. Lund at Telephone No. (612) 573-2006, Facsimile No. (612) 573-2005. In addition, all correspondence should continue to be directed to the following address:

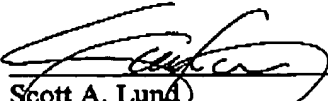
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Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this paper or papers, as described herein, are being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office, Fax No. (571) 273-8300 on this 5th day of July, 2006.

By 
Name: Scott A. Lund